# our fourfooted friends

Animal Rescue League of Boston • Summer 1988

# Animal Rescue League of Boston

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## COVER:

A male tiger, one of the many exotic animals in the League's custody during a major animal cruelty case (see story page 7).

*Photo by Jane Angell of Angell & Stroh, Dennis, Massachusetts.*

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Arthur G. Slade, *President*

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

## A Strange and Tragic Story

The major portion of this issue of *Our Fourfooted Friends* is devoted to telling the strange and tragic story of one of the largest and most complicated cruelty cases we have ever undertaken. We have not usually reported a cruelty investigation in this much detail, but it became apparent that one can only obtain a true perspective and appreciation of the degree of our involvement, by understanding firsthand the multitude of complications and problems our agents were forced to face.

As you will see as you read through this story, the great variety and different species of animals could not be more unusual. They ranged from an elephant to a blind pony, from a pair of tigers to exotic birds and over and over again the large number and diverse types of unusual animals almost defy one's ability to comprehend such a situation.

Nonetheless, our staff rose to the needs of the moment and dealt with a problem the likes of which few, if any, humane societies have ever had to face. It is to their great credit that they held steadfast to their ultimate goal of relieving suffering for these animals. Obviously, it was necessary to call on the advice and services of many experts in the care of exotic animals and we are especially grateful to friends at Tufts Veterinary School, Franklin Park Zoo, and Bassetts Wild Animal Farm for their kindness and help.

This case started nearly two years ago and it has taken many twists and turns with an ultimate conclusion you will read of in this article, which will be presented in two installments. It also has to be one of the most expensive cruelty cases on record. The League's costs, exclusive of legal fees, were in excess of $125,000.

This article is presented as a tribute to the hardworking and unending spirit of the League's staff who gave so boundlessly of their time and devotion to bring aid and relief to the "Mistreated Menagerie" of animals who had so helplessly and for so long needed "Rescue" in the true sense of our name and our founder's philosophy.

# 1988 ANNUAL MEETING

The standing-room only crowd at the League's 89th annual meeting broke into spontaneous applause as the deer on the screen bounded through the snow to freedom, following its rescue from drowning in the icy waters of the Charles River. They were watching the conclusion of a videotape of a dramatic rescue by a group of heroic men from Dover and Needham who were among those honored at the meeting, which was held Wednesday, April 27, at League headquarters.

▲ *Dr. John Curtin of the Metropolitan Zoos receives his award from Arthur G. Slade the day before the meeting at Franklin Park Zoo, in the company of Mark Goldstein, D.V.M., executive director of the Zoo, and Becky the camel, one of the animals seized in the Watson case (see story p. 7) which benefited from Dr. Curtin's care.*

*Heroes honored for saving a drowning deer ► are (l to r) Patrolman Aaron J. Mick, Sergeant Jeffrey M. Farrell, Patrolman Jerry W. Adams, all of the Dover Police Department; Arthur G. Slade, president of the Animal Rescue League and award presentor; Harry E. Greenlaw, Animal Control Officer for Needham and Dover; and Sergeant Wayne Urquhart of the Needham Police Department. Not present for the photo but also recognized for their role in the heroic rescue are Linwood D. Hamilton of the Needham Police, Patrolman Joseph P. Gallant of the Dover Police, and Dover Firefighter Dennis Dowd.*

Director Philip W. Trumbull, acting chairman for the ıy, greeted those attending and introduced Arthur G. ade, president of the League, who presented the League's ertificate of Appreciation to the following award cipients:

■ Lieutenant Ronald P. Alie of the New Hampshire sh and Game Department who was honored "for his emplary performance, above and beyond his professional sponsibility, by assisting the League in its efforts to sure humane treatment for the animals involved in the ian Watson cruelty to animals case" (see story p. 7). A similar Certificate had been presented earlier in the week to John Curtin, D.V.M. of the Boston Metropolitan Zoos, in recognition of "his outstanding cooperation and professional service" in caring for the exotic animals seized in the same cruelty case.

*ɔn Firefighter Leo P. Hughes, shown at left rescuing a cat from a ing rooftop, receives a Certificate of Appreciation for his action League President Slade (top photo), who is also shown ɔm photo) presenting a Certificate to Lieutenant Ronald P. Alie of lew Hampshire Fish and Game Department who was honored for xtraordinary efforts in ensuring humane treatment for the animals ved in the major animal cruelty case reported on p. 7.*

*Guest speaker Brad Blodget. State Ornithologist, shows a poster depicting Massachusett's endangered bird species to Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, a new director of the League, and Arthur G. Slade, president.*

■ Harry E. Greenlaw, Animal Control Officer for Dover and Needham; Sergeant Wayne Urquhart, representing the Needham police; and Sergeant Jeffrey M. Farrell, representing the Dover Police; for their participation in the heroic February rescue of the drowning deer (see photo caption).

■ Firefighter Leo P. Hughes of the Boston Fire Department "for his singular effort in rescuing a cat stranded on the roof of a burning two-family home in Brighton."

Reviewing the League's highly successful 89th year of service, which saw adoptions continue to rise and total membership increase to 27,541, President Slade told those attending: "We are ever mindful of the moral and financial support we get from people like you. We wouldn't be able to do all the things we do if it weren't for your good, kind and faithful support. Thank you all."

Guest speaker Brad Blodget, State Ornithologist for the Commonwealth's Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, treated the audience to a slide-show presentation highlighting several of the state's more than 200 different species of birds, "a highly diverse population for a small state." He focused on particular members of endangered bird species that the state has been making successful efforts to repopulate, including the bald eagle, the peregrine falcon, piping plovers, the osprey, and bluebirds. The greatest threat to endangered species is "loss of habitat through development," he told the assembled members. "Wildlife is on the run, as man expands."

Six directors were re-elected to the board at the 89th annual meeting. They are Walter M. Bird, Jr., Rev. Robert W. Golledge, D.D., Franklin King, Jr., Mrs. Jeffrey E. Marshall, Philip W. Trumbull, and John L. Worden, III.

# A Veterinary Update

*By Edward A. Leonard, D.V.M.*

## Pest-Proofing Your Pet and Home

Fleas, ticks and other external parasites not only cause discomfort for a pet but also can be a serious health threat. To protect your pet from pests, you must treat not only the animal, but its environment as well. The adult flea spends only a small percent of time on an animal. The rest of the time is spent roaming around house and yard, laying eggs in carpet and grass. While getting rid of all fleas is virtually impossible, here is a step-by-step guide to achieve maximum flea control.

The same procedures will help reduce ticks, but because ticks are basically outdoor creatures, you must also develop the habit of checking your pet's coat daily after it has been outdoors. To remove ticks, use tweezers to grasp the tick as close to your pet's skin as possible and pull it off. Follow with an application of alcohol or hydrogen peroxide.

### ■ Your Pet

1. Shampoo with an insecticidal pet shampoo, following directions carefully. Place your pet in the tub with plenty of towels handy. A rubber mat will prevent the animal from slipping and help it stay calm. Use an opthalmic ointment to protect the eyes. Start by soaking it head to toe with warm water, then apply a ring of lather first around the neck. This keeps the fleas from running for refuge to the head and face. Then lather the entire body; don't forget armpits, under stomach and legs. Rinse well.

2. Flea Dip is needed after the shampoo to kill any remaining parasites. Mix with warm water according to directions, sponge on all areas, and do not rinse or towel dry. Protect your pet's eyes and mouth, and wash your own hands thoroughly afterwards.

3. Follow up with Mist Repellent to prevent further infestations. Brush your dog or cat's hair the wrong way, dampen completely with spray mist, then comb hair back in place. In the unlikely event that your pet should exhibit any signs of toxic reactions, like loss of appetite, vomiting or tremors, wash the insecticide off with baby shampoo, keep the animal warm and dry, and call your veterinarian. These reactions, which occur rarely, are usually temporary.

### ■ Treating Home and Yard

1. Use Flea Spray first to treat areas that cannot be reached by a fogger, such as under beds, chairs and couches, and inside closets, flushing fleas out to the center of the room. Wash pet bedding.

2. Next set Flea Foggers on a low table (cover table with paper) in the center of each room, including attic and basement. Before turning foggers on, vacuum all carpets to remove eggs (dispose of vacuum bag immediately), cover all cooking utensils, remove infant toys, cover aquariums, turn off air conditioning and aquarium water pumps. Remove all people and pets from the premises for at least two hours. Now set off the foggers, starting at the back of the house, and working your way toward your exit door. When you return, open all the windows and let the house air for at least thirty minutes before going back in.

3. Follow up with periodic sprays of high traffic areas between full treatments. Since fleas can live up to 48 hours after fogging treatment, wait two days before vacuuming. Since eggs and pupae are not affected by the insecticide, it is necessary to repeat the full treatment regularly, every three to four weeks, to achieve full control. It's a good idea to schedule full treatments just before going away on vacations or holiday weekends.

4. A chemical yard and kennel spray may also be needed in some areas, particularly if there is a high tick infestation.

### Heartworm Reminder

If your dog has not been tested yet for canine heartworm disease, and placed on preventive medication, it is not too late to take this important precaution. Heartworm disease is transmitted by mosquitoes and is a threat throughout the summer months, but effective preventive medication is available in pill or liquid form. It can be administered once a day, or once a month, depending on the medication you and your veterinarian choose to use. Protect your pet today!

# The Case of The Mistreated Menagerie

## *Rural Setting Hides Squalor and Suffering*

### Part I: Witnesses for the Prosecution

On Monday, June 23, 1986 the Animal Rescue League of Boston received an urgent telephone call from a citizen concerning "shocking" conditions which the caller had witnessed at a remote, secluded farm/stable located in rural Essex, Mass., just west of Ipswich. Two days later the League responded to this call by obtaining and executing a judicial search warrant, authorizing its agents to search the farm for:

> Any and all sick, injured, diseased, or neglected animals, alive or dead, that are not properly being care for as stated in Chapter 272, Section 77.

Thus began the biggest, longest, and most costly investigation and prosecution in the League's 89-year history. Indeed, although this prosecution is presently inactive due to the farm/stable-owner's decision to "jump bail" last December, the complex and bizarre criminal case still has not come to a final conclusion.

*Lions, tigers and scores of other exotic animals were involved in the case.*

The June 23rd caller was a professional animal dealer, who shall hereafter be called "Mr. Dealer." Mr. Dealer had gone to the Essex stable to see about purchasing some rabbits, ponies, and other animals from the owner, a 42-year-old man by the name of Brian J. Watson. According to Mr. Dealer, as he and his assistant drove up the dirt driveway which led into the thicket of trees which surrounded the farm/stable and shielded it from the public's view, they first noticed 6-7 bloated ponies standing knee-deep in mud and horse-feces. The visitors smelled a rancid odor, and observed that the ramshackle farm was infested with mosquitoes and other bugs. When a man appeared and started to open the dilapidated gate across the road to let them in, the gate crashed to the ground, frame and all.

As Mr. Dealer and his companion proceeded onto Watson's property, the rancid odor became stronger and stronger. Next they noticed an extremely emaciated cow, lying in approximately 2′ of mud and cow-manure in a small pen, surrounded by flies and bugs. The visitors also observed a camel, secured in a small, 5′x 5′ area by a chain around its neck. The camel was swaying its head back and forth.

After a few minutes Mr. Dealer and his companion decided that they had better leave the farm and contact the authorities at once, which they did.

*"The visitors observed that the ramshackle farm was infested with mosquitoes and other bugs."*

## The June 25, 1986 Search

On this date, League Agent Alan Borgal applied to the Gloucester (Mass.) District Court for the above-mentioned warrant to search the Watson farm/stable. When he and approximately ten colleagues arrived to execute the wa rant, they found a veritable menagerie of animals, some which were "domestic" animals, such as pigs, rabbits, an goats, and many of which were "exotic" animals, such a an elephant, a leopard, a lion, two tigers, six primates, tw mountain lions, a camel, and 13 "exotic" birds, such a cockatoos and macaws. Mr. Watson earned his living i part by running a public stable, and in part by renting th exotic animals for parades, business openings, fairs, et

*After witnessing scenes like the cow (below) lying in filth on their first visit, League agents (above) returned in August to take more animals into protective custody.*

In general, the conditions in which the League agents
ıd these animals were unsanitary and grossly substan-
l. For example, the birds were located in a small,
lowless, attic-like area over the barn, where they
ed adequate light, air, and space. The bottoms of their
:s were covered with feces. A number of the primates
e confined to small travel cages, too small to permit
nal postural adjustments.

A number of animals were confined in small pens
re there was no clean, dry place to sit or lie down;
er they were forced to exist in a "sea" of mud, feces,
urine. Few or none of the animals had an apparent
ly of clean drinking water, and there was evidence that
y were being fed primarily or exclusively stale and, in
e cases, moldy bread.

*"The conditions in which the League agents found these animals were unsanitary and grossly substandard."*

Twenty-three goats and four sheep were confined in a
which contained a single shed, the floor of which con-
d of deep mud mixed with urine and feces.

League agents seized a total of four animals from the
son property: a diseased, emaciated Holstein cow,
h they found penned up in a small, very muddy, feces-
neated pen; a sick and emaciated goat; an emaciated
and a pony with serious eye problems. The agents
d have seized more animals but for logistical limita-
.

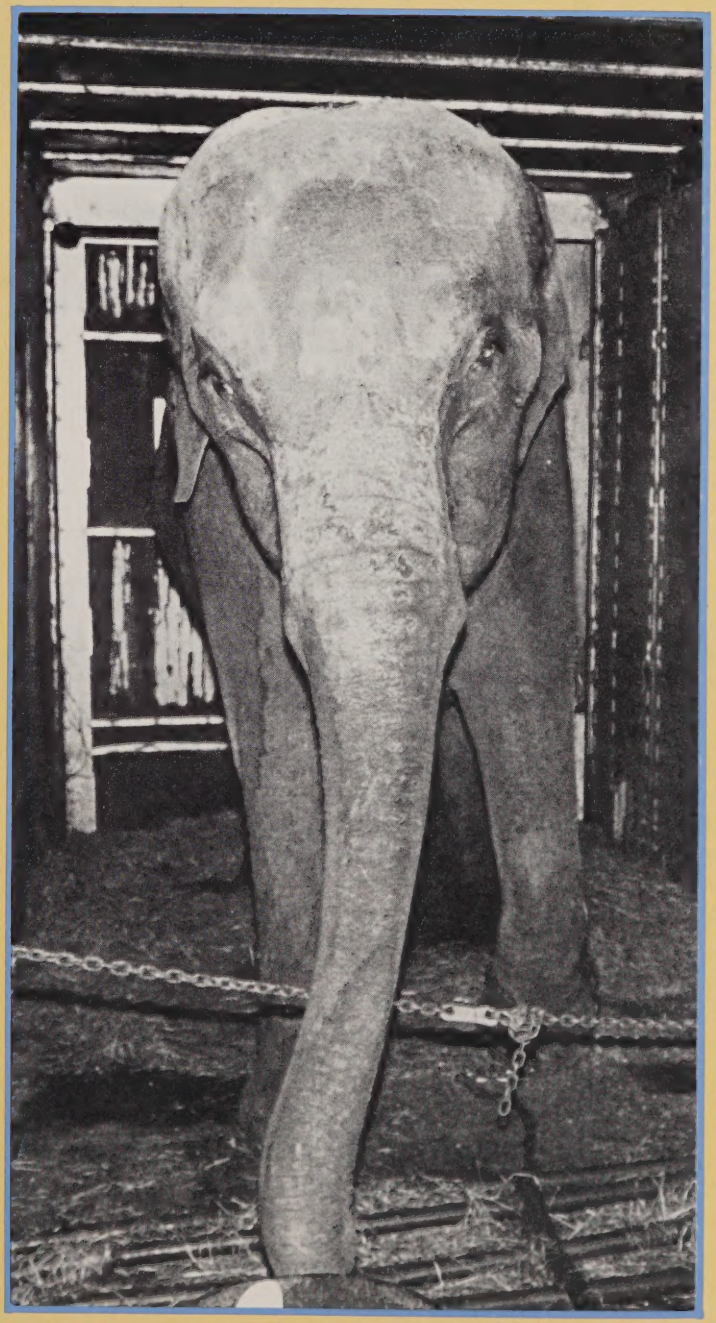
The agents transported the four seized animals to the
University Large Animal Hospital, located in
ton, Mass., just west of Worcester. The Tufts veteri-
ns immediately examined the four animals and admin-
d appropriate care. Despite their best efforts, the goat
the day after it had been seized, on June 26.

## nesses Responding to Publicity

The June 25th search generated a considerable amount
blicity, in response to which a number of completely
ated citizens stepped forward and contacted the
ue to report various experiences which they each had
vith Brian Watson and his "Ponderosa Pines" stable/
Some of these witnesses' stories may be summarized
y as follows:

. One witness, herein called Mr. Carpenter, told the
ue that in 1973 or 1974 he had been on the Watson
stable property many times, in order to do some car-
y work for Brian Watson. Mr. Carpenter stated that
doing this work he gradually became aware that
on treated his animals very cruelly. He observed
on jab his horses in the stomach with things like rake-
es, and beat his horses with axe handles and with a
He observed Watson beat his llamas with a length of
chain, with the result that they became very fearful.
served Watson kick baby kittens and send them flying
feet through the air.

*A goat in weakened condition looks up in mute appeal.*



*"Ruthie" the elephant was to play a prominent role in the ongoing case.*

*"He observed Watson beat his llamas with a length of heavy chain."*

Mr. Carpenter stated that the last straw was that one day, while working with a power tool, he heard a loud "thud-thud" sound which went on for an extended period of time. When he investigated the unusual sound, he found Brian Watson beating a pony with an axe handle. The beating went on for about 5-10 minutes, and came to an end only when the pony fell to the ground, dead.

2. Miss L, a young woman, contacted the League and stated that she had worked for Brian Watson for a day and a half on the weekend of July 4, 1983. She had responded to a help-wanted ad in a newspaper. She noticed that the farm was in poor condition, and the animals' cages were in disrepair. She noticed that one of the trucks which Watson used to transport his animals was dilapidated and falling apart.

She discovered that the place where she was expected to stay (the job included "room and board") had no toilet facilities and no running water on the premises. She noticed that Watson's own quarters were located in the attic-like area over the barn, where he also kept 5-6 exotic birds, housed in wire cages. She noticed that there was approximately 1" of feces on the bottom of the cage and the area had a horrible odor.

On her second day working for Watson, Miss L stated, she had to get up at 5:30 a.m. to load the animals into cages and trucks and transport them to a nearby town, to give donkey rides. It was an extraordinarily hot day, with the thermometer reaching approximately 94°. Despite the heat, Watson insisted on working the donkeys (and her) for three or four hours straight, with no rest.

Miss L stated that in her opinion, Watson did not care about the condition of his animals.

3. Another young woman, Miss P, contacted the League and stated that she remembered seeing Brian Watson exhibiting some animals on the Fourth of July, 1985, in Peabody, Mass.

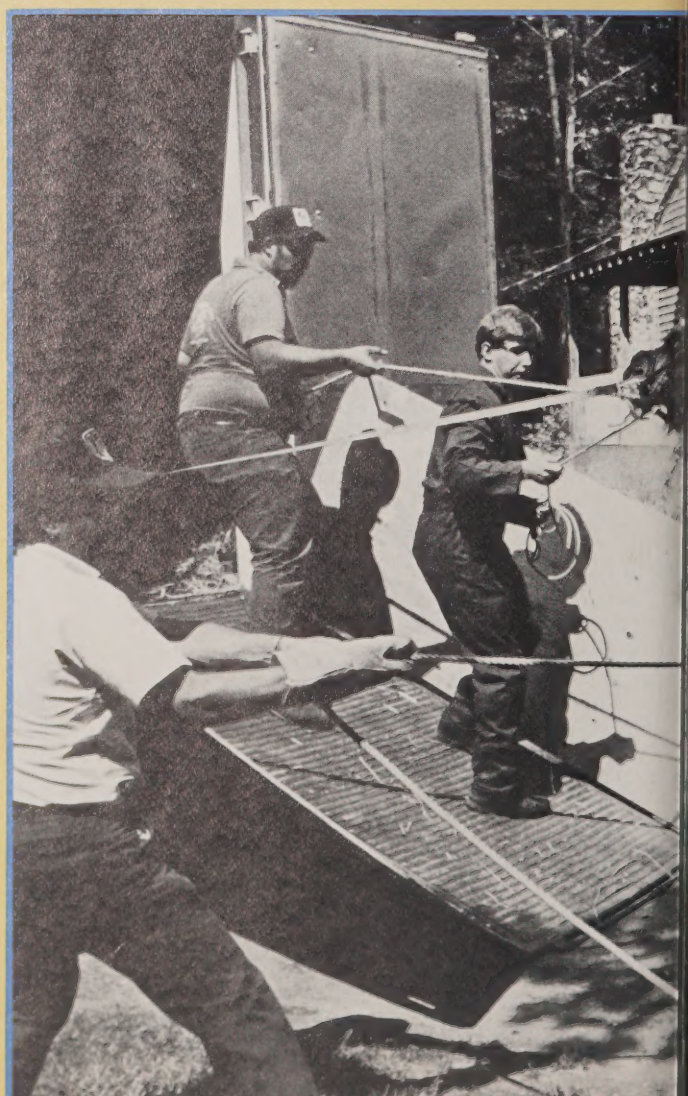
Miss P recalled that Watson had two white horses, small draft horses, which were pulling carriages. She noticed that both of these horses had large girth sores. The girth sores were bright red. There was no indication that Watson had put any ointment on them. Miss P also noticed that the horses' hooves were in very poor condition, cracked and infected.

She also noticed that Watson had an elephant which appeared to be in poor condition, with skin that looked coarse, scaley and mangey.

Miss P also recalled that Mr. Watson had a number of parrots and monkeys, which he had left out in an open parking lot with no shade and no barriers to keep children back. At one point, when two of the monkeys made some noise, Watson went over to their cage and hit it with a stick, at which point the monkeys became very upset and the hair on their backs stood up.

4. Another young woman, herein called Miss H, contacted the League. Miss H stated that she had worked for

*After finding "Becky" the camel tethered to a tree in the woods, League agents and cajole her into a van which would carry her to safety, and ultimately a new She had been beaten and blinded in one eye.*



Brian Watson for approximately one week, in March or April of 1983. She also had responded to a help-wanted ad.

After agreeing to work for Watson and returning to the farm/stable with her belongings, Miss H discovered that her quarters consisted of a large box or container, which apparently had formerly been used to haul railroad freight.

She visited the attic-like area upstairs in the barn, where she observed a monkey and several exotic birds which were confined in filthy conditions. The monkey was confined in a "sky-kennel." There was a hole in the sky-kennel, which apparently the monkey had created by chewing it.

*"She observed a monkey and several exotic birds which were confined in filthy conditions."*

Miss H recounted that Watson kept an elephant chained up in the barn. During her entire stay Watson never took the elephant outdoors.

Watson had a number of horses and ponies, which he left outdoors most of the time, with wet and muddy coats. She observed that Watson would only clean the horses and groom them the night before stable-customers were expected.

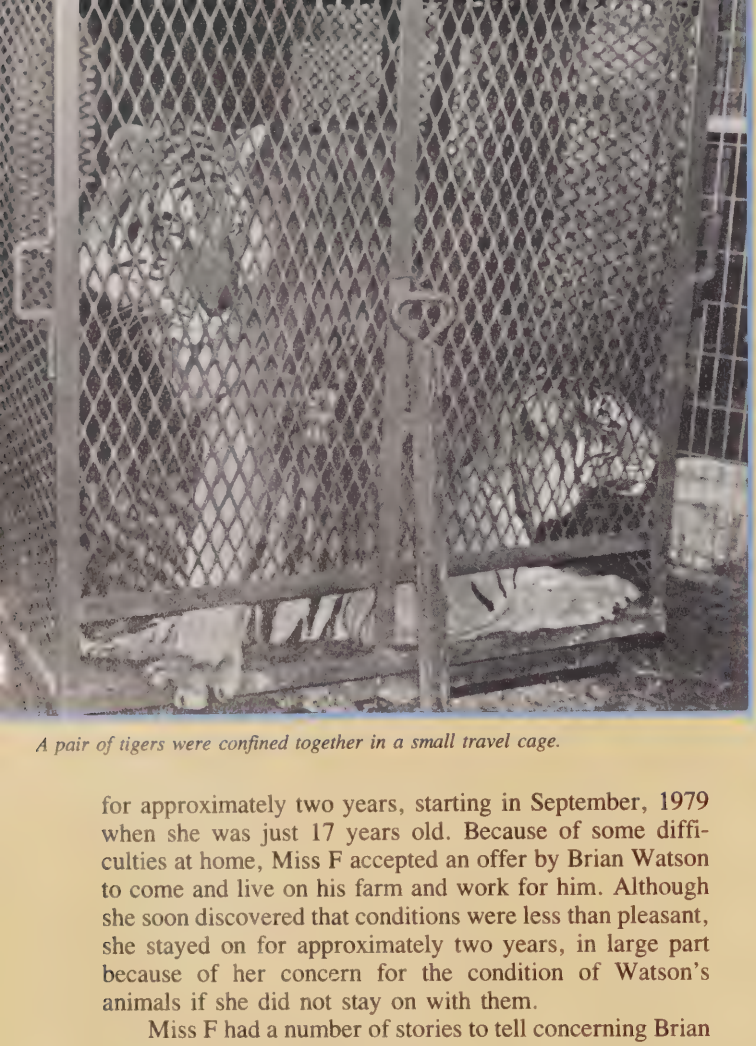
Although there was still snow and ice on the ground and it rained very heavily several times during her brief stay, she noticed that Watson kept one of his three yard dogs chained outdoors, with no cover available.

Miss H noticed that there was a large "manure-pit" located out behind the farm. Half buried in the manure was the frozen carcass of a dead cow. The carcass was partly covered by some plywood, so that the carcass was not readily apparent to a casual visitor. Miss H asked Watson how the cow had died. Watson refused to tell her.

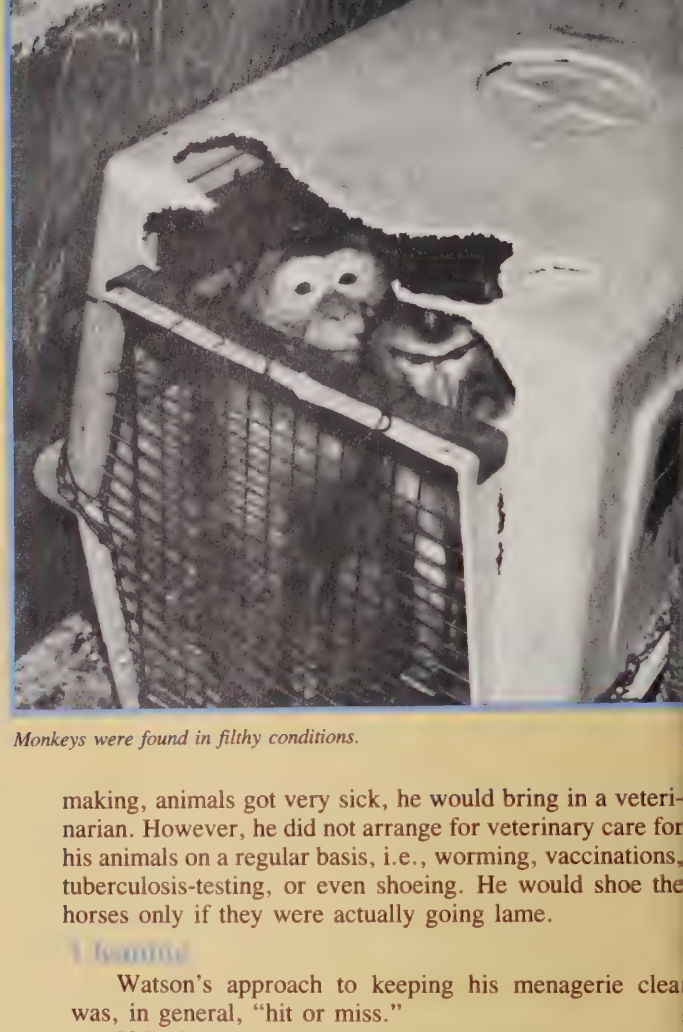
5. Still another witness stepped forward, who shall be called Miss A. Miss A informed the League officials that in October, 1980 she and a friend had worked briefly for Brian Watson at his Essex stable/farm. At one time, while Watson was away from the farm, she and her friend followed a hose that led out into the woods behind the farm clearing. The hose led the young women to a total of five bears, confined in three relatively small transport-cages. The cages were too small for bears to move around in freely. The bottoms of the cages were covered with the bears' feces and urine, thus confining them in their own filth. The urine and feces had spilled out onto the ground around the transport-cages.

She also observed that Watson had confined a baboon in a small cage, which he kept inside a truck-trailer on the property. The baboon's cage was about three times the size of the baboon. Also in a cage inside one of the trailers was a large male lion. The lion could not stand up in his cage without touching the roof of the cage with his head, nor could he lie down without touching the sides of the cage. There were some chicken remains on the floor of the cage which the animal was forced to lie upon.

6. Still another young woman contacted the League with some information which she wanted to tell the League concerning Brian Watson. This young woman, herein called Miss F, stated that she had worked for Brian Watson



*A pair of tigers were confined together in a small travel cage.*



*Monkeys were found in filthy conditions.*

for approximately two years, starting in September, 1979 when she was just 17 years old. Because of some difficulties at home, Miss F accepted an offer by Brian Watson to come and live on his farm and work for him. Although she soon discovered that conditions were less than pleasant, she stayed on for approximately two years, in large part because of her concern for the condition of Watson's animals if she did not stay on with them.

Miss F had a number of stories to tell concerning Brian Watson and his menagerie, some of which are as follows:

### Housing

Generally Watson reserved the stalls in his barn for the "exotic" animals. No matter how bad the weather got, he would leave the horses and other domestic animals outdoors.

The horses and ponies were kept in a two-sided, open, high-roof shelter, lined up side-by-side and chained to a long rail. In winter the horses' and ponies' feces would freeze where they fell, building up to piles of one foot or more so that gradually the rear levels of the horses' and ponies' legs were elevated, forcing the animals to stand with their weight on their front legs for days at a time.

*"A baboon which was housed in one of these trailers froze to death."*

Watson had a number of detached truck-trailers which he kept on the property, and he would keep some animals in these unheated trailers. One year during F's tenure, a baboon which was housed in one of these trailers froze to death. He also owned a number of primates, which he kept in small travel cages.

### Veterinary Care

In general Watson did not provide his animals with regular veterinary care. When valuable, i.e., money-making, animals got very sick, he would bring in a veterinarian. However, he did not arrange for veterinary care for his animals on a regular basis, i.e., worming, vaccinations, tuberculosis-testing, or even shoeing. He would shoe the horses only if they were actually going lame.

### Cleaning

Watson's approach to keeping his menagerie clean was, in general, "hit or miss."

If he had some extra help around, such as volunteer children on a weekend, he might put them to work cleaning stalls, etc. However, if, as was usually the case, he did not have sufficient help, he would let the cleaning go. The one exception to this general rule was with respect to the elephant. According to Miss F, Watson kept the elephant's stall fairly clean, apparently because he feared the effect of foot-disease.

In general, the animals' living quarters were not cleaned regularly, but rather were left dirty and littered with feces and urine. Frequently Watson's animals would lack a clean, dry place on which to sit or to lie down.

### Food

Miss F soon learned that Watson fed many of his animals stale bread. Watson would purchase this stale bread from various local bakeries, buying as much as a trailer-full at a time, and would make one purchase last perhaps two weeks. During the two weeks, this bread would gradually turn moldy. Despite the mold, Watson would feed the bread to his goats, sheep, and pigs. The food supply for all of the animals was generally unwholesome and inadequate.

### Inspections

During F's two years on the farm, various official inspectors would attempt to inspect Watson's farm/stables. These inspectors would be deterred by the fence which surrounded the property and also the two or three German shepherds which were kept on long leashes. Watson's instructions to Miss F and his other helpers were to lie low when the inspectors came unannounced, and to pretend that

ey were not there. Miss F observed that usually this ategy worked; that is, after waiting for a long time, the spectors would eventually conclude that no one was home d would therefore depart the farm.

With respect to those inspections which did take place, e of Watson's strategies was to remove his primates in eir small, clearly inadequate travel-cages and to conceal em, either in the attic-like area over the barn or, at one ne, at the home of a friend some distance from the farm.

### isciplining the Animals

During Miss F's time with Watson, she observed that beat his animals "constantly." He beat them with sticks, d he beat them with his fists. When he beat them with an

*gue agent Alan Cunningham removes a pig from Watson farm in ust search.*

*"He beat them with sticks, and he beat them with his fists."*

object, he would take care to do it in an area of the animal's body where scars would not show. As a general rule, if one of Watson's animals "acted up," i.e., was disobedient, Watson would beat the animal severely in order to "teach it a lesson."

For example, if horses acted up during a hayride, after the ride was over he would take the horses back to the farm, secure them by their bridles to an object, and then beat them for as much as 20 minutes per horse.

At one time Watson boasted to F that he had once struck a horse in the head, thereby simultaneously breaking his arm and killing the horse.

Once when a tame, declawed lion grabbed at Watson with a paw, Watson reacted by kicking the lion in the face and knocking a tooth out.

One evening in the spring or summer of 1982, Watson was attempting to get his camel ready for a show the following day. The camel, whose name was "Becky," was giving Watson a hard time, refusing to let Watson put a halter on her. After Watson had tried unsuccessfully to put the halter on the camel, Miss F took the halter and gave it a try. The camel allowed F to put the halter on it without resistance. The camel's fickleness apparently infuriated Watson. He secured the camel's head to an object and began to hit the camel about the face with a piece of pipe. This beating went on for a long time, despite F's protests. In the course of this beating Watson destroyed the camel's left eye, thus blinding it in that eye.

Watson had a lion which, although very tame, had the habit of roaring noisily at night. Neighbors complained.

Watson then began to keep the lion indoors, in a cage on the ground floor of the barn. However, the lion continued to roar at night, keeping Watson awake in his bedroom in the attic above. Watson then tried to control the lion's roaring with mace and with cold water, but to no avail. Finally, one night at about 3 a.m. when the lion continued to roar, Watson went downstairs and shot the lion with a .22 caliber handgun. Apparently the .22 caliber bullets were insufficient to kill the lion, so Watson came back upstairs, got a rifle, and went down and finished the killing.

Watson thereafter left the lion's corpse outdoors near the barn, where he covered it with a little earth. The corpse remained in that location for a long time, during which it decomposed and attracted maggots. F observed that the smell from the lion corpse was apparently very frightening to the other animals on the farm.

### "Thunder"

Watson had a horse named "Thunder." Thunder became very sick, so sick that Watson spent some money to have it treated by a veterinarian. Despite Thunder's poor health, however, Watson continued to use it for hayrides. One morning on the day after a hayride Thunder was found dead in its paddock.

*Handle with care—agents Cunningham, Edward Powers and Robert Walsh, Boston shelter manager, remove a mountain lion, one of 32 animals seized on Augu*

### The Bears

Miss F was working for Watson in October, 1980 when Miss A discovered the bears hidden in the woods. As F knew, Watson had been keeping those bears in transport cages and concealing the inadequate cages out in the woods for a period of about six months. When, as a result of A's complaining to the authorities, Watson got in trouble concerning these bears and a criminal complaint was filed against him in Gloucester District Court, Watson asked F to testify on his behalf to the effect that the bears had only been kept in the woods for a couple of weeks. F, who was then age 18, went along with this request, and thus both she and Watson so testified at the magistrate's hearing. As a result of this false testimony, the magistrate refused to accept the proposed criminal complaint.

### Starving of Two Lions

Watson had two lions on his farm while F worked for him. It is very expensive to keep a lion, as they need a great deal of expensive fresh meat every day. Watson neglected to purchase the lions enough meat. Eventually the older lion died of starvation. The younger lion then proceeded to eat the older lion's carcass. About three weeks later the younger lion also starved to death.

### Dilapidated Truck

Watson had a horse by the name of "Caesar." One day in 1980 Watson and F were transporting Caesar to or from a job. At one point while the truck was parked, F noticed what appeared to be a pool of oil underneath the truck-trailer. She decided to look inside the trailer. When she did so she discovered that Caesar's right rear leg had gone completely through the floor of the trailer. Caesar's leg was cut badly and bleeding profusely.

### Freezing Puppies

Watson had a guard dog by the name of "Sheba." Sheba was mostly German shepherd. During F's tenure Watson's, Sheba had approximately three litters. Wat forced Sheba to remain outdoors with her litters. A result, many of Sheba's puppies froze to death. A num of puppies also were injured by the chain by which Sh was secured to her post.

### Efforts to Re-Inspect Watson's Farm/Stabl The Obtaining of a Second Search Warran

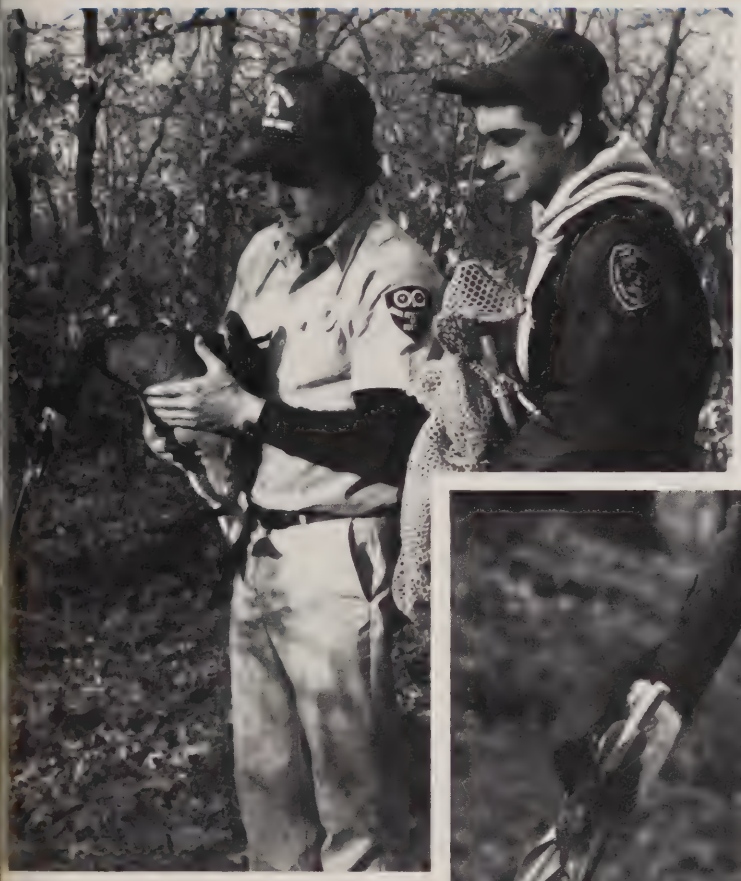
Although obliged to leave many of Watson's anim behind due to logistical limitations, League officials w concerned as to their ongoing treatment. Accordingly, League attempted to contact Brian Watson to see whet he would be willing to allow League officials to ma periodic unannounced inspections of his property. Wh approached with this request, Mr. Watson's attorn advised that he was sure that Watson would not be will to consent to any such future inspections.

Faced with this attitude, League officials decided seek a second warrant, in order to get back on the prope to see the current conditions, and to seize any animals be held or treated in violation of Massachusetts' anir protection statutes. Accordingly, on August 4, 19 League Agents Borgal and Carol McCarthy went to Salem (Mass.) District Court, where they applied for a obtained such a warrant. With the assistance of members the Massachusetts State Police and local police, Anir Rescue League officials executed this warrant the follow day, Wednesday, August 5. In the course of this sea operation League officials seized a total of 32 anima including eight primates, two mountain lions, five exo birds, two ponies, and the camel "Becky."

(This story will be continued in the next issue of *Fourfooted Friends.*)

# NEWSFRONT

NIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON



## OOSE RECOVERS ROM ARROW WOUND

eague agents Peter Faux and Mark lliamson hold a Canada goose shot the head with a crossbow at Mt. od Pond in Melrose in early Spring. goose survived for five days with 10-inch arrow in her head (see et) before League officials were to capture her and bring her to ts Veterinary School in Grafton ere the arrow was removed and she nursed back to health. The arrow passed through the goose's ses, narrowly missing the brain, ording to Dr. Mark Pokras who ed for her during her three-week pitalization. On Friday, April 29, gue agents released her at her ne, the pond at Mt. Hood, where was reunited with her gander mate reportedly had been noisy and fused, searching for her during her ence.

## FAMOUS FELINE

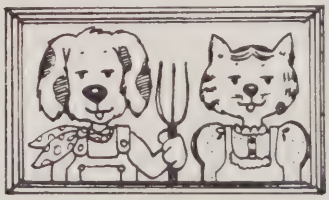
"Petey" Murdock, shown above at the age of three months shortly after he was adopted from the League by Mrs. Rita Murdock of Dorchester, was a winner in the Carnation Company's "Salute to Pets" Sweepstakes. Petey's prize was a year's supply of cat food, in the flavors of his choice!

## COUPLE PROMOTES ANIMAL ADOPTIONS

The League extends special thanks to WBOS Radio announcer Eric Marenghi and his wife, Candace Dean, for writing and producing a series of public service announcements. The messages promoting pet adoption have been furnished to 36 radio stations in Greater Boston.

The couple became interested in helping the League after they adopted a long-haired orange kitten at the Chandler Street shelter in Boston. They named the cat Villi, after Villi Knudson, a volcano adventurer they met on a trip to Iceland.

The cat soon lived up to his adventuresome name by leaping from the second-story porch of the couple's Brighton apartment. They also report Villi does not respond to his name, but comes running at the sound of paper being crinkled.



## SANDWICH MUSEUM SHOWS ANIMALS IN ART

The Art Museum at Heritage Plantation in Sandwich is presenting a major exhibition titled "Canines and Felines: Dogs and Cats in American Art." The show, which includes paintings, prints, drawings and sculptures from the late 18th century to the present, will run through October 23, 1988.

# Puppies Abandoned?

Kevin and Tommy were best friends. They played together every day, rain or shine. Today the sun shone brightly. The sky looked clear blue, and not a cloud could be found. It was another beautiful summer day for the boys to play outside.

Kevin and Tommy decided to go exploring in the large field by the main road. As they ran through the trees to get to the field, the boys noticed a car slow down and pull over to the side of the road. Tommy and Kevin stopped quickly and watched. They saw a man step out of the car. He pulled out a large cardboard box and put it on the ground by the side of the road. Then the man hopped back into his car and drove away.

Tommy and Kevin ran from the trees. They crossed part of the field to reach the big brown box. The box lay right next to the main road. The boys moved the box onto the grass where it was safer for them to open it. They could hear whimpering from inside the box. It sounded like baby animals.

Kevin leaned down and opened the top of the box. Inside there were five frightened puppies. They were crying for help. Kevin and Tommy looked at each other and frowned. They both loved puppies, but they knew that neither of them could keep them. Kevin already had a large golden retriever, and Tommy had just gotten two kittens from the *humane society* in town last month.

What were Kevin and Tommy going to do with five, cute, little puppies?

The boys closed up the box and carried it back to Kevin's house. Then they told Mrs. Butler, Kevin's mother, what happened. Mrs. Butler said that the man in the car had *abandoned* the puppies. She explained that sometimes people don't want to take care of their pets so they leave them behind. These people hope that other people will find the animals and take care of them.

Tommy wanted to know why people who owned pets, like the puppies, wouldn't take care of them. Mrs. Butler began to explain this. First she told the boys that unless a female dog or cat is *spayed,* it can have puppies or kittens very often. When the female is spayed, it has an *operation* preventing it from getting pregnant. Male dogs are *neutered* so that they can't make a female pregnant.

Mrs. Butler then said that many people don't want their pet spayed or neutered. These people think that puppies and kittens are cute. When the puppies and kittens start to grow big, the owners try to give the pets away. The owners often abandon the puppies or kittens if no one wants them. The owners do this because they don't have the time, money or space to care for the animals as they grow bigger.

Mrs. Butler told the boys that the sad news is that in a few more months those same animals become pregnant again, and the owners have to abandon more puppies o

ittens. Mrs. Butler explained that it is these wners who cause the pet *overpopulation* roblem. This is when there are too many ets and not enough people to give them ood homes.

Just then, one of the puppies started vhimpering again. It reminded Kevin, Tommy and Mrs. Butler that the puppies in he box still needed homes. Mrs. Butler uggested that they bring the puppies to the umane society. She said that the workers at he humane society would care for the uppies until new families came in to *adopt* he puppies.

Kevin and Tommy were very glad. Now hey had a place to bring the puppies. Now he puppies would find good homes. The uppies would have new owners who would ove them. The owners would have the uppies spayed or neutered when they were ld enough. These owners wouldn't have to bandon any puppies. This made Kevin and Tommy very happy.

## VOCABULARY LIST

**Humane Society** – A place like the Animal Rescue League where dogs and cats are brought and taken care of before going to new homes.

**Abandoned** – To be left behind.

**Spayed** – To keep a female dog or cat from getting pregnant.

**Operation** – Something done to make the body more healthy.

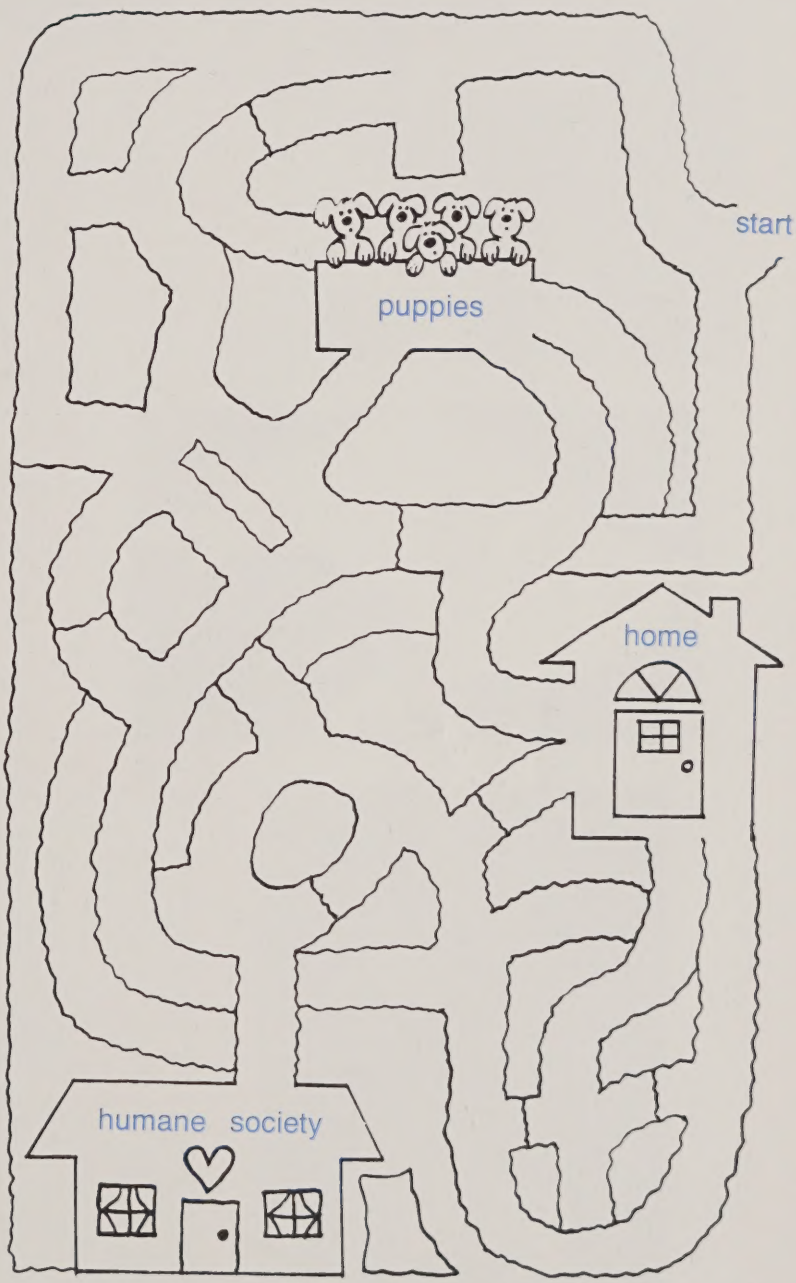
**Neutered** – To keep a male dog or cat from getting a female pregnant.

**Overpopulation** – Too many of something.

**Adopt** – To bring home and care for always.

## PUPPY MAZE

Help Kevin and Tommy find the abandoned puppies. Show them the way home, and then help them bring the puppies to the humane society.




See solution on inside back cover

# PETS IN THE PICTURE

1

4

5

1 "Please put this picture of my beautiful 'Mindy' in your magazine," writes Virginia Smith of Mannheim, West Germany. "She was 16½ when this picture was taken, ten days before she died. I adopted her at the Animal Rescue League in Boston. She was loyal and loving until the end. She traveled with me worldwide and lived the last five years with me in Germany."

2

2 Mrs. G.E. Bolling of Lynn would like to share this photo "of my beloved pet 'Disney,' who died in March. Our lives will never be the same again," she writes.

3 Here, in his favorite sleeping position, is "Baby," a comfort-loving cat owned by Anne Marie Gasinowski of Peabody. "I think I have more pictures of him than I have of my family," she writes. "As you can see, Baby *loves* to eat—sometimes we have to put him outside so our other cats, Fred and Lulu, can get a chance to eat!"

3

4 Kathy Coleman of Peabody, who adopted 16-year-old "Mittens" from the League when he was six weeks old, says: "I thought it would be nice to drop you a line letting you know that Mittens has had a good life full of love and affection. Since his adoption, Mittens and I have been the best of friends. Wherever I am, Mittens is there too. He sits in the window and waits for me to come home. We curl up on the couch and watch TV; he sleeps at the bottom of the bed every night and never wakes me to be fed. He waits until I wake up, and he is always there when I need someone to hug! One day Mittens will be gone, but the memories I have will be treasured forever, and I have you to thank for them."

5 Young Deborah Coulter of Sudbury, who describes herself as an "animal lover of all times," writes to say she thinks "it's great that people still care enough about animals to try and help them," and to share this photo of a "very special dog, Shadow," who died recently at the age of 13. "I grew up with her and I loved her very very much and I still miss her," Deborah writes. "She was a good dog, so my family and I want to make a donation to the League in memory of Shadow, and for the great work you all have done. Thank you."

## COME TO THE
## ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON'S

*To Benefit Homeless Animals*

**Thursday, October 20, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.**

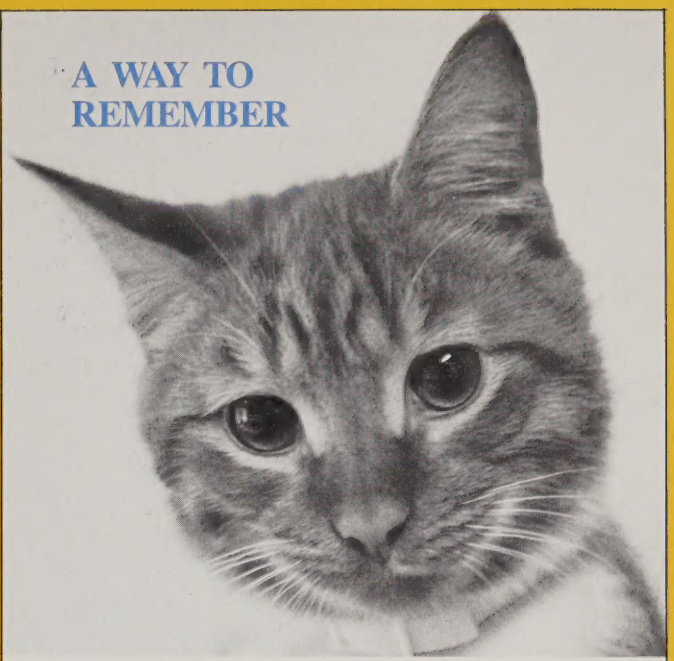
**Corner Arlington & Tremont Sts. Boston**

Gift Tables • Baked Goods • Shelter Tours
Demonstrations by Boston Police Horses & Dogs

**Rummage Sale — October 29th**

**Animal Rescue League of Boston**
10 Chandler St. Boston 426-9170

## A WAY TO REMEMBER



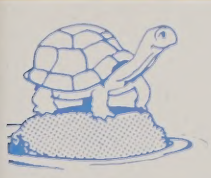
The League continues to rely on the generosity of its friends to meet the ever-expanding needs of our animal population. The cruel realism of inflation makes the League's task in providing needed services more difficult than ever, but with continued support, the challenge can and will be met.

In making a bequest to the League in your Will, please remember that the corporate title of our society is "Animal Rescue League of Boston," that is was incorporated in 1899, and has no connection with any other similar society.

### Form of Bequest

I give to the Animal Rescue League of Boston the sum of _____ dollars.

Animal Rescue League of Boston
10 Chandler Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116



## Moving?

Please allow two months for us to correct our mailing list.

Please let us know if you're planning to move so we can be sure that you receive OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS without interruption.

Old Address:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

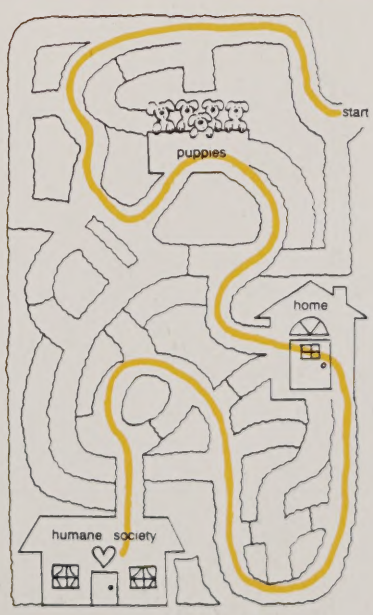
(please print or attach mailing label)

New Address:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____




**Solution to Puppy Maze**

# T-Shirts and Sweatshirts for Youngsters and Adults

**T-Shirts**–Green with white lettering

Children's Sizes:
X-Small (2–4) Small (6–8) Medium (10–12) Large (14–16)
**$7.50**

**Adult Sizes:**
Small (34–36) Medium (38–40) Large (42–44)
X-Large (46–48)
**$8.50**

**Sweatshirts**–Blue with white lettering

Children's Sizes:
X-Small (2–4) Small (6–8) Medium (10–12) Large (14–16)
**$10.50**

**Adult Sizes:**
Small (34–36) Medium (38–40) Large (42–44)
X-Large (46–48)
**$11.50**

## Order Form:

**T-Shirts:** Children's size(s) _____ at **$7.50** e
Adult size(s) _____ at **$8.50** e

**Sweatshirts:** Children's size(s) _____ at **$10.50**
Adult size(s) _____ at **$11.50**

*Costs include postage and packaging.*

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

*Enclosed is my check in the total amount of* _____
*made payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston*

Mail to:
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265
Boston, MA 02117

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Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117